

tion or that are at least evidently less objectionable than the rest.

This attempt is being made, in connection with the American Medical Association, by the recently instituted Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry. It is the object of this council to gather evidence for and against the several proprietary preparations that are now being offered to the medical profession of this country, and by comparing the evident status of the several remedies with the rules that have been adopted as a minimum of requirement to decide on their eligibility to appear in a semi-official list or book to be called "New and Non-official Remedies."

That this effort is not being made any too early must be evident to those who realize the ever-increasing number of evidently fraudulent nostrums that are being exploited at the present time. The difficult and thankless task of selecting the more worthy proprietary remedies that confronts the members of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association would certainly appear to merit your attention and active co-operation.

#### Co-operation of the Profession.

I believe it is your duty, however, to do more, infinitely more, by taking a personal interest and an active part in this tremendously important undertaking of eliminating at least the more objectionable nostrums of all kinds from popular sale and certainly to banish from the practice of medicine the more objectionable compounds that are exploited as "ethical" preparations.

I also believe that it is the duty of each one of you individually to become thoroughly acquainted with at least some of the phases of the deceit and deception that are practiced by the promoters of proprietary medicines or nostrums and to insist that manufacturers of remedies, designed ostensibly for use by medical practitioners, exploit their wares honestly and in keeping with their merits.

I believe it to be your duty to inquire into the influences that manufacturers of nostrums, individually as well as collectively as members of the powerful and wealthy Proprietary Association of America, have exerted, do exert and will exert on the secular as well as on the professional journals of this country and to try to overcome or, if possible, to nullify this influence by your concerted efforts and action.

It will be idle for you to suppose that any appreciable change in the existing conditions can be brought about by your say-so or by your wishes. The impending conflict, to eliminate only the more evident nostrums from the pale of respectability, while it is admittedly disagreeable and unpleasant, is full worthy of your aid and your attention. For ultimate success it will be essentially necessary that each one of you contribute, not alone occasionally, but frequently and persistently. You can contribute most readily if you will insist that the untoward results from the use of proprietary medicines be given proper publicity in connection with the name of the remedy. You can also assist by informing your patients and your friends of the possible dangers that are to be encountered in the promiscuous or long-continued use of even the least objectionable and apparently most harmless nostrum.

You can also contribute if you yourself will desist from the use of proprietary medicines, with the composition or the limitations of which you are not thoroughly familiar. You will be able to do this the more readily if you will but become more thoroughly familiar with the almost inexhaustible fund of well-known and well-tried remedies of the Pharmacopoeia, remedies that are easily tested, readily proved, widely used and are certainly obtainable in any section of this country.

This I believe to be your duty, as citizens of the commonwealth, in return for the protection and the privileges that are being accorded to you.

I believe it to be your duty to your patients, as

physicians, in order to merit their continued confidence and patronage. And, last, but by no means least, I believe it to be your duty to yourselves, as men, in order to foster and to preserve your own self-esteem and self-respect.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON VITAL STATISTICS.

By WM. J. G. DAWSON, M. D., Chairman, Eldridge, Cal.

(Continued from Page 53, Vol. IV, No. 2)

SECTION 17. If any physician who is in medical attendance upon any deceased person at the time of death shall neglect or refuse to make out and deliver to the undertaker, sexton or other person in charge of the interment, removal or other disposition of the body, upon request, the medical certificate of cause of death hereinbefore provided for, or shall willfully or knowingly make a false certification of the cause of death in any case, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

If any undertaker, sexton or other person acting as undertaker shall inter, remove or otherwise dispose of the body of any deceased person without having received a burial or removal permit as herein provided, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

Any registrar, deputy registrar or sub-registrar who shall neglect or fail to enforce the provisions of this act in his district, or shall neglect or refuse to perform any of the duties imposed upon him by this act, or by the instructions and directions of the state registrar, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

And any person or persons who shall violate any of the provisions of this act, or shall willfully neglect or refuse to perform any duties imposed upon them by the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

Any transportation company or common carrier transporting or carrying, or accepting through its agents or employees for transportation or carriage, the body of any deceased person without an accompanying permit, issued in accordance with the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than fifty nor more than two hundred dollars.

SECTION 18. Local registrars are hereby charged with the strict and thorough enforcement of the provisions of this act in their districts under the supervision and direction of the state registrar. They shall make immediate report to the state registrar of any violations of this law coming to their notice by observation or upon complaint of any person, or otherwise. The state registrar shall have authority to investigate cases of irregularity or violation of law, personally or by accredited representatives, and all registrars shall aid him, upon request, in such investigations. When he shall deem it necessary, he shall report cases of violation of any of the provisions of this act to the prosecuting attorney or other proper officer of the county or municipality, with a statement of the facts and circumstances, and when any such case is reported to them by the state registrar, all prosecuting attorneys, or officials acting in such capacity, shall forthwith initiate and promptly follow up the necessary court proceedings against the parties responsible for the alleged violations of law.

SECTION 19. All acts and parts of acts in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 20. This act shall take effect March 31, 1905.

Assembly bill No. 347, introduced by Mr. Gates and passed by the last legislature, amends and re-enacts the laws pertaining to the registration of births, marriages and deaths, and is as follows:

SECTION 1. Section three thousand and seventy-four of the Political Code of the State of California is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 3074. The State Board of Health shall maintain, at the city of Sacramento, a bureau of vital statistics for the complete and proper registration of births, marriages and deaths, for legal, sanitary and statistical purposes, which bureau shall be under the supervision of the secretary of the State Board of Health, who shall be ex-officio state registrar of vital statistics, and whose duty it shall be, after consultation with the State Board of Health, to promulgate and enforce all necessary rules and regulations that may be required to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 2. Section three thousand and seventy-five of said Political Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 3075. The State Board of Health shall appoint a competent statistician to assist the state registrar of vital statistics and such clerical and professional assistants as may be required for the proper discharge of the duties of said registrar. (Said statistician shall also be an assistant to the secretary of the State Board of Health.)

The statistician so appointed shall hold office at the pleasure of the board, and shall receive an annual salary of eighteen hundred dollars, payable out of the general fund of the state from money not otherwise appropriated at the time and in the manner in which state officers are paid.

The compensation for clerical and professional assistants shall be fixed by the board, and shall be payable from its fund for contingent expenses provided in the general appropriation act.

SECTION 3. Section three thousand and seventy-six of said Political Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 3076. All persons who perform the marriage ceremony in this state shall, within three days after the ceremony, file with the county recorder a certificate of registry of the marriage performed by them, in such form as may be prescribed by the state registrar, which shall contain among other matters as near as can be ascertained, the place and date of marriage, sex, race, color, age, name and surname, birthplace, residence of the parties married, number of marriage and condition of each, whether single, widowed or divorced, the occupation of the parties, maiden name of the female if previously married, the names and birthplace of the parents of each, and the maiden name of the mother of each.

SECTION 4. Section three thousand and seventy-seven of said Political Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 3077. Physicians, midwives, nurses and other persons assisting at a birth shall return in writing, within five days thereafter, to the county recorder of the county where such birth takes place, in such form as may be prescribed by the state registrar, a certificate of registry of such birth, which shall contain among other matters the time and place of such birth, name, sex, race and color of the child, the name, residence, age, birthplace and occupation of the parents, and the maiden name of the mother, and whether born in or out of wedlock, and such other information as may be required by the state registrar; (provided, however, that in cities having a freeholders' charter, the health officer shall act as local registrar, and perform all duties thereof). In case the child is not named, the recorder or registrar of such locality shall deliver to such parent, next of kin, physician, midwife or other person furnishing such certificate of birth a supplementary blank for report of given name, which shall be filled out and returned as soon as the child shall be named.

In case there shall be no physician, midwife or nurse attending at such birth, then it shall be the duty of the parents of any child born in this state (and if there be no parent alive, then the next of kin of said child) within ten days after such birth to report in writing to the recorder of the county (or health officer of cities having a freeholder's charter) where such birth takes place, in such form as may be prescribed

by the state registrar, the date, place and residence, name, sex, race and color of such child, and the names, residence, birthplace and age of the parents, their occupations and the maiden name of the mother, and whether born in or out of wedlock, and such other information required by the state registrar.

SECTION 5. Section three thousand and seventy-eight of said Political Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 3078. It shall be the duty of every county recorder to receive, without fee or charge, each certificate of registry of marriage and birth (provided, however, that in cities having a freeholder's charter the health officer shall act as local registrar for births and shall receive, without fee or charge, each certificate of birth, and enter the same in the same manner as provided for the county recorder), to enter the same in separate registers, to be known as the "Register of Marriages," and the "Register of Births," in separate columns, properly headed, the various facts contained in the certificates, and the name and official or clerical position of the person making the report. The recorder (or health officer) must carefully examine each report, and register the same marriage or birth but once, although it may be reported by different persons.

The certificates shall be numbered by him and entered in the order in which they are reported to him.

On or before the fifth day of each month each recorder (or health officer) shall transmit by United States mail, carefully inclosed in appropriate envelopes or wrappers, addressed to the state registrar at Sacramento, or shall personally deliver to him at his office in Sacramento, on or before the fifth day of each month, the original certificates of births and marriages filed with him during the preceding month, and shall accompany said certificate with a brief statement of the number of such certificates, and the dates of their receipt. The state registrar shall thereupon file said original certificates of marriages and births, and cause the same to be separately and systematically indexed.

SECTION 6. Section three thousand and seventy-nine of said Political Code is amended as follows:

Section 3079. For their services as required by section 3078 of this code, county recorders (or health officers of cities having a freeholder's charter) shall, in addition to their compensation for the other duties of their office, be allowed by the Board of Supervisors ten cents for each name registered and reported to the state registrar, which sum shall be paid out of the general fund of the county upon warrants issued quarterly and signed by the county auditor and approved by the state registrar, which warrants shall specify the number of certificates of marriages and births properly registered and filed with the state registrar.

SECTION 7. Section three thousand and eighty of said Political Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 3080. The state registrar shall prepare a sample form and blank for use in registering, recording and preserving the reports of marriages and births, and shall prepare and issue such detailed instructions as may be required to secure the uniform observance of its provisions and the maintenance of a perfect system of registration, and no other forms of blanks shall be used than those prescribed by the state registrar.

Printed blanks in the form prescribed by the state registrar for the registration of marriages and births shall be furnished to each recorder (or health officer) by the Board of Supervisors of each county or city and county in sufficient quantities, and each recorder (or health officer) shall furnish, without charge, sufficient number of copies to each applicant upon whom is imposed the duty of certifying to a marriage or birth.

SECTION 8. Section three thousand and eighty-one of said Political Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 3081. The state registrar shall carefully examine the certificates of marriages and births received monthly from the county recorders (or health officers), and if any such are incomplete or unsatisfactory, he shall require such further information to be furnished as may be necessary to make the record satisfactory.

All physicians, clergymen, judges, midwives, nurses, parents or other informants upon whom the duty is imposed of certifying to marriages or births, and all other persons having knowledge of the facts, are required to furnish such information as they may possess regarding any marriage or birth, upon demand of the state registrar, in person or through the local recorder.

Whenever it may be alleged that the facts are not correctly stated in any certificate of marriage or birth theretofore registered, the county recorder shall require a deposition under oath to be made by the person asserting the fact, to be supported by the depositions of two or more credible persons having knowledge of the facts, setting forth the change necessary to make the record correct. Having received such depositions, he shall file them, and shall then draw a line through the incorrect statement or statements in the certificate, without erasing them, and make the necessary corrections, noting on the margin of the certificate his authority for so doing, and transmit the deposition, attached to the original certificate, when making his regular monthly returns to the state registrar. If the correction relates to a certificate previously returned to the state registrar, he shall transmit the deposition forthwith to the state registrar. If the correction is first made upon the original certificate on file in the state bureau of vital statistics, the state registrar shall immediately transmit a certified copy of the original certificate, corrected as above, to the county recorder, who shall thereupon substitute such certified copy for the copy of the certificate in his records. All such corrections and marginal notes referring to them shall be legibly written in ink, type-written or printed.

SECTION 9. Section three thousand and eighty-two of said Political Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 3082. Any officer or person upon whom a duty is imposed under this chapter who fails, neglects or refuses to perform any of the duties imposed upon him under this chapter, or by the instructions and directions of the state registrar, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished in the same manner as other misdemeanors provided in the Penal Code.

SECTION 10. Section three thousand and eighty-three of said Political Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 3083. The state registrar shall, upon request, furnish any applicant a certified copy of the record of any marriage or birth registered under the provisions of this chapter, for the making and certification of which he shall be entitled to a fee of fifty cents, to be paid by the applicant. Any such copy of the record of a marriage or birth when properly certified by the state registrar to be a true copy thereof, shall be prima facie evidence in all courts and places of the facts therein stated. For any search of the files and records when no certified copy is made, the state registrar shall be entitled to a fee of fifty cents for each hour or fractional hour of time of search, to be paid by the applicant. And the state registrar shall keep a true and correct account of all fees by him received under these provisions, and shall deposit all fees with the state treasurer.

SECTION 11. Section three thousand and eighty-four of said Political Code is hereby repealed.

SECTION 12. All acts and parts of acts in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Assembly bill No. 300, introduced by Mr. Cromwell and passed by the last legislature, provides for carry-

ing into effect laws on this subject, and is as follows:

Said Board of Health, or chief executive health officer where there is no Board of Health, shall report to the State Board of Health all violations of the state health laws, and of the laws relating to the registration of marriages, births and deaths, which shall come to their or his knowledge.

Assembly bill No. 298, introduced by Mr. Espey and passed by the last legislature, defines the duties of city clerks and city recorders on the subject of vital statistics, and is as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 1 of an act entitled "An act to provide for the organization, incorporation and government of municipal corporations," approved March 13, 1883, and acts amendatory thereof, is hereby amended by adding a new section thereto, to be numbered section 9 thereof, to read as follows:

Section 9. The (city clerk) of each municipal corporation where there is no city (clerk) shall have the powers and shall perform the duties of a registrar within such a municipality which are prescribed and required by the provisions of an act entitled, "An act for the registration of deaths, the issuance and registration of burial and disinterment permits, and the establishment of registration districts in counties, cities and counties, cities and incorporated towns, under the superintendence of the state bureau of vital statistics, and prescribing the powers and duties of registrars, coroners, physicians, undertakers, sextons and other persons in relation to such registration, and fixing penalties for the violation of this act."

SECTION 2. All acts and parts of acts in conflict or inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect March 31, 1905.

## INDICATIONS AND CONTRA-INDICATIONS FOR INTRA-LARYNGEAL OPERATION IN TUBERCULOSIS OF THE LARYNX, WITH REPORT OF THREE CASES. \*

By CULLEN F. WELTY, M. D., San Francisco.

**B**ECAUSE of the climate of Southern California, a great many people with tuberculosis of the lungs make this their permanent home; others who are not so fortunate come to this climate during the time of the disagreeable weather at their own homes.

Because of this fact the laryngologists of this section have an exceptional opportunity of observing these cases of laryngeal tuberculosis, and it is for this reason that I present this paper at this particular place.

The percentage of laryngeal tuberculosis in lung tuberculosis is estimated very differently by different observers. M. Schaffer, 97 per cent; Lubinsky, 60 per cent; Froumel, 40 per cent; Morral McKensie, 34 per cent; Heinze, 30 per cent; Schech, 30 per cent; Gaul, 27 per cent; Frey, 26 per cent; Krieg, 26 per cent; Buhl, 16 per cent; Willigk, 14 per cent. Probably about 33 1-3 per cent would be a fair average.

Age, between twenty to forty years; more male than female; seldom under twelve years.

It is well to mention at this place the various pathological lesions that are likely to be found in this class of patients that demand surgical interference (in order of frequency).

First, Edema of the aretenoids and epiglottis; second, Thickening and ulceration of the posterior laryngeal wall; third, Infiltration and ulceration of the false chords; fourth, Ulceration of the epiglottis; fifth, Thickening and ulceration of the true chords; sixth, Granulometa supported by a pedacal should be removed in all cases.

\* Read before the Western Section of the American Rhinological, Otological and Laryngological Society, Los Angeles, January 27, 1906.